

## **Remarks**

Claims 23, 24, 26-35, and 40-63 are pending in the application. Claims 23, 24, 26-35, and 40-63 are rejected. Claim 26 is objected to. Claims 26 and 40 are amended. Claims 1-22, 25, 36-39, and 52-63 are cancelled. No new matter is added. All rejections and objections are respectfully traversed.

## **Interview Summary**

On August 15, 2006, a telephonic interview was conducted regarding the independent claims in the application. The participants included Examiner Moorthy and Applicants' representative Andrew J. Curtin, Reg. No. 48,485. Agreement was reached that the Wong reference (U.S. 6,389,419) fails to anticipate the invention and should be withdrawn. The Applicants' representative appreciates the preparedness, courtesy and cooperation demonstrated by the Examiner during the interview.

Claims 52-63 are cancelled herein only to expedite prosecution of the application. Claim 26 is amended to overcome the Examiner's objection.

Claims 26 and 40 are amended to clarify what data is transferred to the host device.

Claims 23, 26-30, 32, 33, 40, 41, 43-46, 48, and 49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Wong, et al. (U.S. 6,389,419 – “Wong”).

The invention is a method for a network interface device without a firewall to connect a host device to a network that requires a firewall. A hardware implemented firewall is connected to the host and data received via the network interface device is first processed by the firewall. The processed data is then sent to the host. Since the hardware implemented firewall is not "in-line" between the network interface device and the host, e.g., both the interface device and firewall are coupled directly to the host, the invention performs a configuration integrity check of a software component on a host device, which makes sure the configuration will properly direct received data to the firewall prior to the host.

Wong describes a method useable by network appliances to determine connections associated with packets passing through the appliance. Further, packets belonging to different flows within a connection can be distinguished and associated with the correct flow.

In columns 2 and 3 where cited by the Examiner, Wong described methods for hashing particular components of inbound and outbound packet address data in order to locate a connection object in a table to associate the packet with a particular connection or flow.

The Applicants have carefully reviewed Wong in its entirety, but cannot find a single element of the claimed method of providing security in a network having a network interface device that makes a network connection without a firewall capability in said communication interface device that is required by the network for data transfer between the network and a host device using the network interface device. It appears Wong fails to teach a single element

of what is claimed. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection based on Wong.

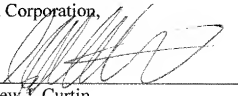
Claims 24, 34, 35, 42, 50-60, 62, and 63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wong in view of Mayer, (U.S. 7,003,562).

Mayer is only used to teach sending policies to network devices. Mayer is silent as to anything claimed other than policy updating. Therefore, the combination of Mayer and Wong fails to make the invention obvious. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection based on Wong and Mayer.

It is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. Should further questions arise concerning this application, the Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the number listed below. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account 50-3650.

Respectfully submitted,  
3Com Corporation,

By

  
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